

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,976,172 B2  
APPLICATION NO. : 09/752882  
DATED : December 13, 2005  
INVENTOR(S) : Girard

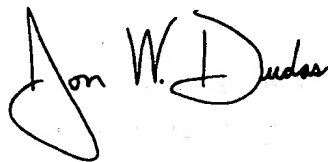
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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In column 6, at line 64, delete "preoperating" and insert --pre-operating--.  
In column 2, at line 37, delete "(EPAA)" and insert --(IPAA)--.

Signed and Sealed this

Twenty-third Day of January, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jon W. Dudas". The signature is stylized, with a large, looped initial "J" and a distinct "D" at the end.

JON W. DUDAS  
*Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office*